



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 111th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 156

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2010

No. 72

Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND, a Senator from the State of New York.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal Lord God, the source of our strength, we acknowledge our dependence on You. Direct our Senators in all their ways, opening and closing the doors of their lives with Your providential wisdom. Watch over their loved ones and deliver them from evil. Equip and strengthen our lawmakers for their difficult work, as they drink deeply from the hidden streams of Your grace. Lord, give them the courage to stand up and speak out in defense of truth, as You provide them with the ability to discern Your will. Fill the wells of their souls with Your strength and their intellects with fresh inspiration.

We pray in Your righteous Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 13, 2010.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND, a Senator from the State of New York, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Madam President, following any leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of the Wall Street reform legislation. We have eight amendments that are pending. Today we will continue to work through these amendments to the bill and Senators should expect rollover votes to occur throughout the day.

We are having a special caucus today—we Democrats—to talk about this issue. The Senate will, therefore, be in recess from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. today. I have had conversations earlier this week with the Republican leader about this and other issues, and I will talk to him again before the caucus.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mr. REID. Madam President, I had the opportunity a few years ago to ride

with two police officers. It was a specialized unit that had been established with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department on drunk drivers. I learned so much. It was a good experience for me. There were things I simply did not know existed. For example, if you see a car with no lights on—it is nighttime—there is a 50-percent chance that is a drunk driver. If you see a car making a wide sweep around a corner very slowly, there is a good chance that is a drunk driver. And they have other things they look for.

As we patrolled the streets, watching for these drunk drivers and responding to calls that came to these police officers, I was struck by how openly they talked about the dangers they face every day, having myself been a police officer and never talking about dangers because we did not have many. This was something that was an eye opener for me. For modern day police officers, it is an inherent part of their jobs, but a part of their families' lives they will never get used to—these families.

Every day, in every city and town around the country, brave men and women—all of whom volunteered to serve their communities—put themselves in danger to protect us—their friends, their neighbors, and so many they will never even know existed or meet. They take that risk to give us peace of mind in our everyday activities.

On Police Week, we recognize those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, those who have given their lives in the line of duty. This evening, they will be honored at a candlelight vigil not far from here. Their names will be added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. Alongside their families, we will celebrate their dedication and remember their sacrifice.

Four of those names belong to Las Vegas policemen who were killed last year. This morning, I had the chance to meet with their families at an 8:30 breakfast. They, of course, are some of

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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